

Chief, Technical Branch

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ANTICOMM Conference - 16 April 1953

1. On Thursday, 16 April 1953 between 2:00 and 4:00 PM, a conference on ANTICOMM was held in the 3D Conference Room, 2900 I Building. Present at this conference were: ~~_____~~, ~~_____~~, and ~~_____~~ representing AD; ~~_____~~ and ~~_____~~ representing the Medical Staff; ~~_____~~ representing the Director's Office and OMI; and ~~_____~~ and ~~_____~~ representing TSS.

3. Following ~~_____~~ report, there was a general discussion by all hands concerning the use of this area for research and testing in the ANTICOMM work. In general, the discussion seemed favorable and all hands agreed that a great deal of work was necessary and it was essential to find an area where large numbers of bodies would be used for research and experimentation. ~~_____~~ stated that in connection with the testing of drugs, he was quite certain a number of psychiatrists all over the United States would be willing to test new drugs, especially drugs that affect the mind. Several others present stated there were foundations, laboratories, etc. that would test new drugs. All present agreed that the wider the testing the better the chances of success.

4. ~~_____~~ then reported on his recent trip to ~~_____~~ and ~~_____~~ and the obtaining of a number of recruits for ANTICOMM Team personnel ~~_____~~.

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5. Following this, [redacted] reported on the development of the facilities and laboratories of the U. S. Department of Agriculture both at Beltsville and Washington for future use in connection with ARTICHOKE work. [redacted] also pointed out that the U. S. Department of Agriculture had been enlisted to speed up the bringing in to the United States various botanicals for the ARTICHOKE program and the Department of Agriculture had given fine co-operation in this connection.

6. [redacted] then spoke of the conference with [redacted] and certain specialists in the Food and Drug Administration and how full co-operation had been promised by these individuals. [redacted] described the various laboratories and testing facilities of the Food and Drug Administration that would be made available to the ARTICHOKE work when and if necessary.

7. At this point, there was a general discussion concerning the problem of the returning POWs from Korea. [redacted] gave a detailed description of the problem to that point and told of the ARTICHOKE efforts to assist in the interrogation of the returnees. All hands agreed that the "hard core" group and those who had been successfully indoctrinated were excellent subjects for ARTICHOKE work but it was the general opinion of those present that owing to publicity and poor handling, the ARTICHOKE techniques could not probably be brought to bear. [redacted] stated that he was making every effort in this connection and pointed out that he knew all the Surgeon Generals personally and was endeavoring to fully acquaint them with the possibility of ARTICHOKE use in connection with the returnees.

8. At this point, [redacted] presented the paper written by [redacted] of the Medical Staff on his research of the hypodermic and related instruments. This paper, which covers in detail and various devices and problems in connection with the use of the hypodermic, reflects as a conclusion that at the present time the hypodermic does not appear to be useful for the ARTICHOKE work. [redacted] stated, however, that the Medical Staff intends to keep in touch with the entire field and any new developments along these lines will be studied to see if they have an ARTICHOKE interest.

9. [redacted] then discussed the "Explosive" case. [redacted] pointed out that the individual known as "Explosive" had been dropped from any possible operational use and that the division that controlled his future activities were preparing to turn him

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[redacted] pointed out that SO had consented to this from a security point of view because of [redacted] medical report on "Explosive" and a careful analysis of the facts in the case by [redacted] and [redacted] from a security basis.

10. [redacted] then stated that he had recently been in touch with Senator Lodge (U. S. Representative at the United Nations) and Senator Lodge had shown a great interest in the potentiality of the Chinese and Soviet use of "brain washing" as a propaganda weapon for use by the United States at the United Nations' sessions. Senator Lodge stated he was seeking a very dramatic word which would indicate horror and would condemn (by its sound) Soviet practices of attacking people's minds. [redacted] stated that he had mentioned use of the word "impermissible means" as a combination of words to be used by Senator Lodge since the Soviets themselves had widely used these words in connection with the recent release of the doctors who had been charged with poisoning Soviet officials.

11. [redacted] gave a brief report on spire-oxy-barbiturate which he was having tested. He stated that, to date, results have been disappointing but work in this connection will continue.

12. [redacted] then suggested, in view of the widespread interest of the ARTICHOKE group and the fact that the ARTICHOKE program of necessity continually moves in operational channels, that an OPS man of senior rank, possibly attached to the office of DDP should be invited to attend these meetings regularly. [redacted] stated this man should have sufficient authority to discuss the ARTICHOKE work with high level OPS people and stated he should also have sufficient knowledge of operations to understand the ARTICHOKE problems in relation to operations. [redacted] stated he would talk to [redacted] in this connection. All agreed this was a very sound idea.

13. The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 PM after Thursday, 21 May 1953 had been agreed upon as the time of the next meeting. This meeting to start as usual at 2:00 PM and to be held in the SO Conference Room.

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